

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2003. As an initial matter, Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-33.

In Paragraph 4, claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,719,952 to Rooks. The Rooks reference, however, does not show every limitation of independent claim 34 and therefore cannot anticipate the claim.

Claim 34 is directed to a method for acquiring a plurality of off-axis X-ray images of at least two regions of interest. The method of claim 34 can be understood with reference to Figure 3 of the instant application. Using the method of claim 34, off-axis images of at least two regions of interest (A, B, C, etc.) are obtained. These images are then combined to generate a cross-sectional image. In contrast, the Rooks reference discloses taking N images from different perspectives of a **single** region of interest and subsequently makes a cross-sectional image of that region of interest. The Rooks reference does not disclose taking images of at least two regions of interest, as required by claim 34. Thus, the Rooks reference cannot anticipate independent claim 34.

For all the reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 34 be withdrawn and the claim passed to issue. If for any reason the application is not considered to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at 312.935.2366.

Respectfully submitted,

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